# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

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## New M-81 to Be Issued Soon

Further liberalization of tin quotas for canned foods is expected when the next amendment to the Tin Conservation Order M-81 is issued, probably sometime during the coming week. The amendment, which will supersede the one issued last November, is expected to grant tin for an additional number of canned food items not now covered by the order, and there is some indication that tin may be allotted also for pet foods.

As soon as the new M-81 is issued, the Association, through an agreement with the Civilian Production Administration, will mail copies to each canner-member and to the entire canning industry. An analysis of the order also will appear in the INFORMATION LETTER.

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Among highlights of President Truman's radio address to the Nation Thursday night was his statement that he would urge Congress to renew the Price Control Act "as soon as possible, and in advance of its expiration date, June 30, 1946." Also, he urged further extension of the War Powers Act, authorizing controls over priorities and allocations. This was recently extended to six months (to June 30) instead of for a year as the President had requested.

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Effective today, sugar rationing is transferred to the Price Department of OPA and the Rationing Division is terminated. Sugar is the only rationing problem remaining of the 15 major programs once in operation, Price Administrator Bowles stated in announcing the shift. The new Sugar Rationing Office, in the Price Department, is headed by George A. Dice, now acting head of the Food Rationing Division. Edward G. Pickett, now chief of the Sugar Rationing Branch, is assistant director.

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Price controls on fresh citrus products were restored yesterday by the OPA after a test suspension period which began November 19. Restoration of ceilings was ordered after fresh citrus prices jumped 40 to 50 percent above former ceilings.

# N. C. A. Convention Program

Details of the program of the annual convention of the National Canners Association at Atlantic City, the week of February 3, are not fully completed at this date, primarily due to delays in obtaining commitments from all of the invited speakers. It is hoped that the full program can be made ready for release and publication next week.

Meantime, the Association is able to announce some of the chief topics that will be covered and to make known the names of some of the speakers. The Convention will deal with agricultural matters as they pertain to the canning industry, pricing policies of the Government as they apply to canning, the work of the Association and the Can Manufacturers Institute in the field of canned foods nutri- (*See N. C. A. CONVENTION PROGRAM on page* 3)

### FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH

In the passing of Louis Dashiell on December 27, the Association lost the oldest member of the staff and, next to Mr. Gorrell himself, the oldest in point of service.

While like all other members who only saw him once or twice a year, for years I only knew him slightly, I have, in the last few years that took me to Washington 10 or 12 times annually, learned to know him better.

He was at all times unobtrusive, quiet, efficient, well-informed, courteous.

He gave of himself unsparingly right to the end, in spite of the fact that he may have had other burdens we knew not of.

He will be missed not only by the officers and the staff when next the Administrative Council and Board of Directors meet on the eve of the convention at Atlantic City, but by the members also, because "Louie" will no longer be at the registration counter.

Please convey to the members of his family my deep feeling of sorrow until such time as the Resolutions Committee have opportunity to more fittingly give expression to the collective action on his passing. He was truly faithful unto death.

FRED A. STARE,
President, National Canners Association.

## LOUIS DASHIELL DIES

### Was Oldest N. C. A. Employee; Served Organization for 33 Years

The canning industry lost one of its most faithful and effective servants in the death of Louis Dashiell, assistant treasurer of the National Canners Association, at his home in Hyattsville, Md., December 27. Mr. Dashiell was 77 years of age and had given the Association 33 years of loyal service from the time he joined the organization in its early years at Bel Air, Md. Perhaps more than any other member of the staff he was known personally to canners all over the country and regarded universally with affection and admiration.

All during the period of large annual conventions in Chicago and elsewhere he had handled the details of room assignments which gave him personal contact with practically the entire membership. He won everyone's respect for his fair and efficient performance of this difficult task, as well as for his handling of Association accounts and books.

Mr. Dashiell was born in Princess Anne, Md., on August 31, 1868, and was educated in the public schools of Maryland.

He first came to the attention of Frank E. Gorrell, then secretary of the newly-formed National Canners Association, while serving as passenger agent for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Forest Glen, Md. Later Mr. Dashiell was passenger agent for the Maryland and Pennsylvania Railroad at Bel Air, Md., and still later served as deputy clerk of the Harford County Court. During this period a close friendship developed between the two men. Mr. Gorrell recognized Mr. Dashiell's outstanding abilities, and took him into the Association organization in 1912.

In the early days of the Association work Mr. Gorrell assigned to Mr. Dashiell the consumer complaint work, which he handled until a separate division was formed. Likewise, he handled early statistical assignments prior to the creation of the Association's Division of Statistics. During his entire career, Mr. Dashiell supervised the accountancy of the Association and compiled the annual directory of canners issued by the Association. Altogether, he made a definite contribution towards the building of the organization from its small, early status to that of a strong, national organization.

The Association staff attended funeral services held at the First Methodist Church in Hyattsville, Md., December 29. Pall bearers at the funeral and at the burial at Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Washington, D. C., were chosen from members of the staff.

Mr. Dashiell was a brother of the late Cassius M. Dashiell, who served as secretary and treasurer of the Tri-State Packers' Association for a great many years.

Survivors are the widow, Jessie Williams Dashiell, to whom he was married May 20, 1913; a son, William; two brothers, William Henry of Princess Anne and John W., Sr., of Pittsburgh, Pa.; and a nephew, Louis Dashiell, of Hyattsville, Md.

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Less than a week following Mr. Dashiell's death, Mrs. Dashiell's mother, Betty Busey Williams, 94, died December 31 at the Dashiell residence, where she had made her home for several years.

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## Pig Tin Quotas Are Increased for the First Quarter in 1946

An "across the board" increase in pig tin quotas for the first quarter of 1946 was announced by the Civilian Production Administration this week to help industry increase production. This increase, CPA said, can only be made possible by dipping heavily into the government stockpile. The government stockpile, subject to allocation at the end of 1945, was approximately 20,000 tons.

The action was accomplished through the issuance of an amendment to the tin conservation order, M-43. At the same time, CPA revoked Directive 4 to M-43 as its provisions are now incorporated in Schedule IV of the order.

Consumer goods products benefitting from the increased quotas include collapsible tubes, tin foil, equipment for preparing and handling food, and chemicals. Other increased quotas are for tin pipe and sheet, all types of solders, tin plate and terne plate. Principal changes in pig tin quotas for the first quarter of 1946 compared with those applying in the last quarter of 1945 for items used by canners are as follows:

*Equipment for preparing and handling food.* May now use either the permitted use in 1944 quarter or that of the corresponding quarter of 1940, whichever is greater. Former use permitted 1944 quarter base or 15 percent of 1940 quarter.

*Tin plate and terne plate.* Now 100 percent of 1945 quarter against 95 percent of 1944 quarter.

### Forthcoming Meetings

January 7-11, 1946—National Council of Farmers Cooperatives, 17th Annual Meeting, Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

January 9-11—Northwest Canners Association, Gearhart Hotel, Gearhart, Ore.

January 10-11—Wisconsin Canners Association and University of Wisconsin Cannery Sanitation Conference, Madison.

January 10-11—Second Industrial Waste Conference, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

January 10-12—Georgia Canners Association, Annual Meeting, General Oglethorpe Hotel, Savannah.

January 29-31—Fieldman's Refresher Course, Nittany Lion Hotel, State College, Pa.

February 3—Old Guard Dinner, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 3-8—National Canners Association, Annual Convention, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 3-8—National Food Brokers Association, Annual Convention, Dennis Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 3-8—Canning Machinery & Supplies Association, Annual Convention, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 3-8—National American Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention, Marlboro-Blenheim Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 4—Young Guard Society, Banquet, Chelsea Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 5—National Dehydrators Association, Annual Meeting, The Breakers, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 6—National Association of Frozen Food Packers, Annual Meeting, Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 6—National Pickle Packers Association, Annual Meeting, The Breakers, Atlantic City, N. J.

February 18-19—Iowa-Nebraska Raw Products Conference, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa.

February 19-21—Technical School for Pickle and Kraut Packers, Michigan State College, East Lansing.

February 21-22—Ozark Canners Association, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.

February 25-26—Tennessee-Kentucky Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Andrew Jackson Hotel, Nashville, Tenn.

February 28-March 1—Virginia Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke.

March 8—Canners League of California, Annual Meeting, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco.

## N.C.A. CONVENTION PROGRAM

(*Concluded from page 1*)

tion, and the program of canning plant sanitation.

Secretary of Agriculture, Clinton P. Anderson, will be a principal speaker on one of the days of general sessions and Dr. W. I. Myers, Dean of the College of Agriculture, Cornell University, also will address the Convention.

On the subjects of nutrition and plant sanitation, the program will present Dr. C. Glenn King, Director of Research, Nutrition Foundation and N. H. Sanborn of the Association staff, respectively.

The general sessions are scheduled for Monday morning and afternoon, February 4; Tuesday morning, February 5; and Wednesday morning, February 6, in Westminster Hall, Hotel Chelsea.

Preceding the general sessions, meetings of the Planning Committee, Legislative Committee, Labeling Committee, Home Economics Committee, Administrative Council and Board of Directors will be held. The schedule of these advance meetings will be announced shortly. The president's report and election of officers is scheduled for the Monday morning session, and the closing session on Wednesday will be devoted to Association business.

Special meetings and conferences that will take place during convention week are as follows: N. C. A. Technological Conference, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons; Waste Disposal and Sanitation Conference, Thursday morning; Raw Products Conference, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons; kraut canners meeting, Tuesday afternoon; Corn Canners Service Bureau meeting, Tuesday afternoon. Secretary Campbell will entertain the secretaries of the State canning associations at dinner Sunday night at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

During the Convention the Association will maintain headquarters, conference and information, press and mimeograph rooms at Hotel Ambassador.

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## Minnesota Reelects Officers

At the annual meeting of the Minnesota Canners Association, held recently at St. Paul, all officers were reelected for another year. They are as follows: President, Steve Lang, Owatonna Canning Co., Owatonna; vice president, Joe Brauneis, Faribault Canning Co., Faribault; and secretary-treasurer, Robert L. Wilson, Faribault Canning Co., Faribault.

## BAE Report Indicates That Demand for Farm Products to Be Maintained at High Level Throughout 1946; Exports to Continue

The demand for farm products is likely to be maintained close to its present high level, at least until 1946 crops become available in Europe and Asia, the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported this week. Domestic demand, which was partially unsatisfied during much of 1945 because of rationing and price controls is expected to continue very large in spite of a prospective small decline in consumer incomes.

Exports of agricultural products, which rose to about three times their 1935-39 level during the war, are likely to be maintained at or above their wartime level during the next few months, provided means for financing are made available. Demands for relief in the liberated areas are now greater than at any time during the war.

Reconversion to a peacetime economy has been proceeding rapidly and with less unemployment than had been commonly anticipated. The total number unemployed reached a peak of 1.6 million in September, double the figure for August. In both October and November, the number unemployed was slightly lower than in September in spite of an increase in the civilian labor force. The total number of persons in civilian employment increased in both October and November. The number of persons with a job but not working because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor dispute or temporary lay-off was slightly smaller in November than in October.

Consumer expenditures are continuing at a level about 3 percent above last year, although slightly below the first quarter of 1945. The total value of retail sales in October was about 9 percent above October 1944 and has apparently continued at this high level. Since retail prices increased only 2 percent during the same period, most of the increase in sales has been either in physical volume or the result of the purchase of higher priced lines of goods. By far the largest increase in retail sales has been in durable goods, but sales by food stores in October were slightly above a year ago and higher than at any time since December, 1944.

The abrupt decline in industrial production following VJ-Day has now slackened. The seasonally adjusted index for October of 164 was only 7 points below September, compared with a decline of 23 points from July to August and 16 points from August to September. Present indications are that the decline in industrial production in November was small. The effect of stopping the production of war goods is now largely past and the strong demand for consumer goods in this and other countries may prevent industrial production from declining much below its present level.

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## Walsh-Healey Exemptions End; a Further Extension Refused

Exemptions from the Walsh-Healey Act for specified processed foods expired on December 31, 1945. (See INFORMATION LETTERS for December 31, 1942, and October 23, 1943, pages 7414 and 7903, respectively.) During the past two months discussions have been had with officials of the Quartermaster Corps in which industry representatives pointed out the probable adverse effect of reinstating the requirements of this Act on future Army procurement. The Army declined, however, to make the necessary findings and to request the Secretary of Labor to continue the exemptions.

It should be noted that all contracts entered into prior to December 31, 1945, for any of the exempt products do not contain the stipulations of the Walsh-Healey Act. Accordingly, the shipment or delivery of such products is not subject to the Act even though it occurs after December 31, 1945. On the other hand, these stipulations will be applicable to all procurement contracts entered into after December 31, 1945, which are subject to the statute.

A comprehensive discussion of the coverage of the statute may be found in the INFORMATION LETTER for November 2, 1940, pages 6365-67.

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## Fish Imports Continue to Rise

The U. S. Bureau of Customs reports that 38,138,060 pounds of fresh and frozen fish from Canada and Newfoundland, under the special tariff classification, have been received for the first 11 months of 1945 as compared with 23,683,431 pounds for the entire year of 1944. The special classification includes fresh and frozen fillets, etc., of cod, haddock, hake, cusk, pollock, and rosefish. The year's quota under this classification was 17,668,311 pounds and all imports in excess of this figure were subject to the full tariff rate of 2½ cents per pound.

## RFC Authorizes Completion of West Coast Floating Cannery; Factory, Originally Begun as a War Measure, Will Be Leased

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced last week that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has authorized the completion of a floating cannery which was begun during the war to aid in the production of canned and frozen fish. The cannery, which is now being outfitted at Bellingham, Wash., is not expected to exceed $3,750,000 in cost, the Service said, and will have the necessary refrigeration and canning equipment used in the processing of fish. The factory ship, together with four trawlers which will accompany it as a fishing fleet, is being leased to the Pacific Exploration Company, Seattle, Wash., the Service stated. Official text of the announcement follows:

Sponsored by the War Food Administration, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation agreed to finance the establishment of an American-operated fishing enterprise in the Pacific as a measure to assist in the prosecution of the war effort. The completion of the project was assured December 21, when the Reconstruction Finance Corporation announced that the undertaking would be continued.

Substantial commitments had already been made in connection with the project, which was well under way several months before V-J Day.

The project, consisting of a factory ship with refrigeration and canning equipment to process fish, together with four trawlers which will accompany the floating cannery as the fishing fleet, will be made available on a lease basis to the Pacific Exploration Company, Seattle, Washington. The cost of the facilities is not expected to exceed $3,750,000.

The fleet will be used by the lessee to fish for king crab, groundfish, and other marine products of the Pacific. Operation of the fleet in the Bering Sea and other Pacific areas is expected to provide the basis for a substantial expansion of our fishing industry and will increase production of high protein food and provide employment to a large number of people in the Pacific Northwest. The steel cargo oceangoing vessel, the "S.S. Mormacray," obtained from the War Shipping Administration, for several months has been in process of conversion into a factory ship for the freezing, processing and canning of fish, and it is estimated that the conversion work will be completed early next year. This vessel is 8,368 dead weight tons, 5,946 gross register tons, and 3,744 net register tons and is now in the yards of Bellingham Iron Works, Bellingham, Washington, where it is being equipped and converted into a factory ship. When completed, it will have accommodations for approximately 250 male workers, as well as office quarters and office equipment. It is contemplated that four steel-constructed trawlers of approximately 165 tons each, all diesel powered, will either be built or otherwise acquired to be used in catching and conveying fish to the factory ship.

With the collapse of Japan, the project could no longer be considered essential to the prosecution of the war and accordingly the Department of Agriculture was not able to reaffirm the original recommendation of the War Food Administration. Consequently, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation requested the advice of the Director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion with respect to continuation of the work. The matter was referred to interested government departments and in consideration of the views and recommendations received, the Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion concluded that the completion of the project was to the benefit of the Government and requested RFC to proceed accordingly.

The Department of the Interior indicated that it would be to the interest of the Government to develop a substantial modern fishing industry in the Pacific Ocean. The Department also advised that the factory ship method appeared to be a practical means of accomplishing that objective, but pointed out that some government financing would be required in the development of this modern fishing technique.

The State Department suggested that the project would be in line with the President's proclamation of September 28, 1945, concerning conservation and development of the fisheries in areas of the high seas which are of interest to this country.

Details of the lease arrangement are being worked out with officials of the Pacific Exploration Company, Incorporated, in consultation with interested government departments so as to develop arrangements which will assure that the Government and the fishing industry will obtain a maximum amount of useful economic, scientific and other information from the operation of the project, and will assure safeguards for the Government and the fishing industry.

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## Kraut Packers Publicity Plans

The National Kraut Packers Association is sponsoring a publicity campaign to acquaint consumers with the food values of sauerkraut and to help overcome the handicap caused by the war when canned sauerkraut was unavailable to the civilian population. The Board of Trustees of the National Kraut Packers Association has voted to assess its members 25 cents per ton for cabbage cut into kraut as a means of financing the publicity campaign.

## Sioux, New Tomato Variety

The Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station at Lincoln reports that a selection of great promise in the tomato breeding program is an indeterminate variety selected from the same cross as was Red Cloud. The new variety has been named Sioux. It is a late-early or mid-season line that produces a large crop of very uniform, round to slightly flattened fruit of good red color.

The Sioux tomato has outyielded under test all varieties of similar growth-season in comparative trials at Lincoln, Scottsbluff and North Platte. The fruit of the Sioux variety has a vitamin C content equal to or somewhat above that of fruits of most other varieties.

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## Industry Advisory Committee for Foreign Trade Is Named

The U. S. Department of Agriculture this week named 42 representatives of growers and handlers to the newly-organized Horticultural Industry Advisory Committee on Foreign Trade which will counsel and cooperate with the government in the development of programs to promote a desirable pattern of foreign trade in fruits and vegetables. The first meeting of the committee is scheduled to be held in Washington, D. C., January 28-31.

USDA officials explained that the revival of foreign trade in fruits and vegetables was an important part of reconversion for the horticultural industry and that the Department desires the advice and suggestions of the industry in the solution of import and export problems.

The committee consists of growers and handlers from the apple, citrus, pear, table grape, stone fruit, dried fruit, tree nut, vegetable, and potato segments of the horticultural industry. If necessary, representatives from other segments of the industry may be selected. The committee is so organized that the entire group may be convened to advise with government officials on problems common to all segments of the industry, or the committeemen from individual commodities may be called together to consider problems affecting only their particular commodities.

The first meeting will discuss such topics common to the industry as the world fruit and vegetable supply and demand situation, USDA commitments concerning the support of agricultural crops, and factors affecting exports. All these topics are basic to the development of a sound foreign trade program.

## Program for Wisconsin Canning Plant Sanitation Conference

The University of Wisconsin, in cooperation with the Wisconsin Canners Association, is conducting a canning plant sanitation conference on the university campus at Madison, January 10-11. The program is as follows:

*January 10*

"Canning Plant Sanitation," N. H. Sanborn, National Canners Association, Washington, D. C.; "Sanitation Problems in Wisconsin Canning Factories," Harry C. Thompson, Wisconsin Canners Association; "Canning Plant Water Supplies," L. F. Warrick, State Sanitary Engineer; and "Cannery Waste Disposal," T. F. Wisniewski, Wisconsin State Board of Health. The sessions will be held in the Auditorium, Agricultural Hall, with R. R. Crosby, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, presiding as chairman.

*Morning—January 11*

"Sanitation in Canning Factories as Required by the Food, Drug and Cosmetics Act," J. O. Clarke, Director, Central Division, Food and Drug Administration; "Cleaning Procedures in Canneries," E. C. Ritchell, Minnesota Valley Canning Company; "Modernizing a Plant for Sanitation," L. J. Weix, Oconomowoc Canning Company (with motion picture in color); and "Discussion led by Phillip Kraemer," Wisconsin Department of Agriculture. The sessions will be held in the Auditorium, Agricultural Hall, with W. C. Frazier, Department of Agricultural Bacteriology, presiding as Chairman.

*Afternoon—January 11*

"Rodent Control," G. C. Oderkirk, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (with motion picture in color); "Insect Control," E. H. Fisher, Department of Economic Entomology; and "Summary of Conference," M. P. Verhulst, Secretary, Wisconsin Canners Association. The sessions will be held in the Auditorium, Agricultural Hall, with C. L. Fluke, Dept. of Economic Entomology, presiding as chairman.

## Sugar Ration Order Revised

The Office of Price Administration issued, effective January 1, 1946, Third Revised Ration Order 3, incorporating the provisions of Second Ration Order 3 and all amendments to date and bringing virtually all remaining ration regulations under a single order. General Ration Order 5 affecting institutional users also has been revised and redesignated as Revised Ration Order 5.

The ration provisions remain substantially the same as previously with certain sections being reworded and renumbered. The procedure governing the issuance of sugar rations to all types of users is simplified under the new regulations. More rapid issuance of sugar rations will result, the OPA expects, through the use of a new procedure of automatic issuance.

The chief changes affecting canners are the introduction of new forms for industrial users—(1) application for quarterly provisional allowance -R-359 and (2) industrial users monthly usage report -R-359-A. These new forms require submission of substantially the same information as under the previous order.

## 1945 Frozen Vegetable Subsidy Agreement Forms Are Mailed

The 1945 frozen vegetable subsidy agreements on snap beans, green peas, sweet corn and mixed frozen foods containing snap beans, green peas or sweet corn—singly or in combination—have been mailed to vegetable freezers by the Department of Agriculture. These agreements and supporting documents must be properly executed before subsidy payments can be made, the Department emphasized.

Commercial freezers of these subsidized vegetables who fail to receive the agreement forms and instructions should obtain them by writing to the nearest of the following offices of the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture:

Room 519 Pacific Building, 821 Market Street, San Francisco 3, Calif.

Room 960, N. 610 S. Canal St., Chicago 7, Ill.

150 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.

Room 425 Wilson Building, Dallas 1, Texas.

Western Union Bldg., Atlanta 3, Ga.

The method of determining the 1945 subsidy on frozen snap beans, green peas and sweet corn is similar to the method employed for computing subsidies for the 1944 pack of these frozen foods. All processing of papers, operating details and payments in connection with these subsidies will be handled through the offices listed above.

## Raw Products Conference

More important recent developments in processing crop production will be discussed at the annual meeting of the Iowa-Nebraska Raw Products Conference at Iowa State University at Ames, February 18 and 19. The conference, which is conducted in the form of a short course for canners, will study among other things the results of experiments made on the direct seeding of tomatoes and the mechanical harvesting of sweet corn in the two States.

## British Malaya Tin Production Will Be Below Pre-War Level

The preliminary report of the U. S. Tin Mission recently returned from the Far East indicates that damage by the Japanese to the tin dredges in British Malaya was much less that expected but that the pre-war rate of production will probably not be approached until 1948, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation reports.

The mission, representing the U. S. Commercial Company, subsidiary of the RFC, included Arthur Notman and Charles Slaughter, who have recently returned from a visit of several weeks in Malaya where they saw government and military officials and inspected some 40 tin dredges. According to the mission there was no evidence of any systematic effort by the Japs to wreck the dredges or render them useless, though most dredges are temporarily out of operation due to a petty thievery of essential parts.

The most serious obstacles to renewed production are the poor condition of dredges due to operation by the Japanese without normal repairs or replacements, the poor location of many dredges because of unscientific dredging operations by the Japanese, and unsettled economic conditions in the country. Some of these conditions are the natural result of Japanese military occupation, but they are complicated by shortage of motor vehicles and shortage of food and consumers goods for the workers.

On the favorable side, the dredging companies see no difficulty in recruiting such labor if food can be obtained. Shipping is adequate, and tin smelters were found to be in good condition.

The U. S. Tin Mission estimates agreed with estimates of mining companies that production in 1946 will be only a fraction of normal but will thereafter improve rapidly, reaching close to the prewar figure in 1948.

According to the RFC, stocks of tin metal amounting to about 4,500 tons have so far been located in Malaya and much the same quantity in Siam. The disposition of this metal is being considered by the Tin Committee of the Combined Resources Materials Board sitting in Washington. It is also known that there are certain stocks of concentrates in those countries, but no reliable estimate could be obtained.

## FDA Resumes Work on Quality Standards for Canned Beans

The Food and Drug Administration has recently advised the Association that they have resumed work looking towards adoption of quality standards for various canned vegetables. Before the war considerable work was done by the Food and Drug Administration on objective methods for the measurement of various factors of canned stringless beans which may be considered as affecting quality, and a hearing probably will be called this spring on proposals to adopt quality standards for both green and wax beans. In order that interested canners may have an opportunity to begin a study of the matter, the Food and Drug Administration has outlined the following points which, on the basis of past work, are considered relevant and the FDA will be glad to have comments from members of the industry concerning the problem:

First, what should be done about the short ends of beans obtained as a by-product in preparing vertical pack or asparagus style, or by sifting cut beans? Some are inclined to regard this mixture as of sub-standard quality solely because of the small size of the pieces, while others suggest that the situation can best be handled by amending the present identity standard and making this type of cut beans an optional form of unit of canned stringless beans under some such name as "Nubbins."

The next problem is to select the factors to be included in a quality standard. On the basis of the present information the following are being considered:

1. Limit on defects, such as spotted or discolored units; those containing unsnipped stem ends; leaves and other harmless vegetable material.

2. A limit on maturity based on percent by weight of bean seed in the total drained weight.

3. A limit on fibrous material which remains when the deseeded pods are reduced to a pulp by maceration with water or treatment with a dilute solution of some alkali such as sodium hydroxide.

4. A limit on units with tough strings, to be determined by a prescribed method.

The Journal of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists for November 1936 carries an article by S. C. Rowe and V. B. Bonney, entitled "A Study of Chemical and Physical Methods for Determining the Maturity of Canned Snap (Stringless) Beans." This describes methods for measuring tough strings and quantity of fibrous material remaining after pods are treated with an alkali. Since that time a similar method for fibrous material, using the Waring Blendor for macerating the beans in water without use of alkali, has been worked out by the National Canners Association Research Laboratory. The Food and Drug Administration also is trying out this method.

## U. S. Export Possibilities Cited

The United States is now the chief source of supply for exports to foreign countries and at the same time the leading market for imports and with these two levers it can be a powerful influence in the reconstruction of world trade, according to an article in the current issue of *Foreign Commerce Weekly*.

The reliance of many important United States industries on export trade even before the war indicates clearly that maintenance of high levels of production and employment are to a great extent dependent on exports, Paul Wiers, International Trade Unit, Department of Commerce, points out in the article, entitled "The Importance of Importing."

A large export trade will require a large import trade, not only because we need raw materials but also because foreign countries can pay for our exports only through selling imports in this country.

"Exports amounting to from $3,000,000,000 to $4,000,000,000 can be financed through the World Bank, Export-Import Bank loans, direct intergovernmental loans, private investments and UNRRA," the article states.

"An additional $500,000,000 to $1,000,000,000 in exports may be financed by tourist expenditures, shipping and insurance charges, and immigrant remittances. But if foreign countries are to service their outstanding loans and be able to buy exports from the United States in sufficient volume for this country to maintain its present productive capacity, an import trade must be developed amounting to from $5,000,000,000 to $7,000,000,000 a year."

## Greenleaf to Address Meeting Maryland Food Technologists

The Maryland Section of the Institute of Food Technologists has invited C. A. Greenleaf, Assistant Director of the Association's Washington Research Laboratories, to speak at its January 11 meeting in Baltimore. Mr. Greenleaf will speak on the topic "Research in the Canning Industry."

The membership of the Maryland group includes a good many technologists from food industries other than canning, and the invitation gives an opportunity to acquaint them with the extent to which scientific research has been supported by the canning industry, and with some of the practical benefits that have resulted therefrom.

## Secretary Campbell Recovering

Association Secretary Carlos Campbell is recovering at his home from an emergency appendectomy, and is expected back in his office towards the latter part of next week. He suffered a severe appendicitis attack at his home Christmas night and was rushed to the hospital next day. The operation that afternoon was successful, no complications were found, and his recovery has been normal.

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